

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

Claims 1-8 have been canceled. New claims 9-21, have been added. The new claims are substantially similar to claims 9-21 of the parent application, which is Application Serial No. 10/017,449 ("the '449 application"). Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification.

Table 1 has been amended to correct a typographical error. In Table 1, the stop codon of open reading frame L2 should read "5611 TAG" instead of "5161 TAG". The correct codon, "5611" was listed correctly in the Abstract as well as in Claim 2 on page 21 of the specification. In addition, Figure 1B shows that a "TAG" codon, which is a stop codon, is present at nucleotide 5611, whereas an "ATT" codon, which encodes an isoleucine residue, is present at nucleotide 5161. Accordingly, this amendment adds no new matter and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

A petition for a three month extension of time is being filed concurrently in the '449 application so that the '449 application will be pending at the time of filing of the instant application.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this amendment and charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0812. A duplicate copy of this petition is enclosed.

Respectfully Submitted

Date: October 22, 2003

Bart W. Wise
Bart W. Wise (Reg. No. 49,029)

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Roche Molecular Systems, Inc.
1145 Atlantic Avenue
Alameda, California 94501
Tele: 510-814-2800
Fax: 510-814-2973